

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 19 January 2005 (19.01.2005);
original claims 1 and 14 amended; remaining claims unchanged (3 pages)]

CLAIMS

1. Single-use cosmetic article comprising at least one fibrous support, the support being at least partially impregnated with an anhydrous or encapsulated cosmetic product, the support extending in at least one plane and being made of at least one material chosen such that:

i) when the support is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T0), it at least partially shrinks and becomes elastic in at least one direction of the said plane, and such that

ii) when the support is placed in contact with water at a second temperature (T1), higher than the first temperature (T0), it dissolves so as to become at least partially disintegrated.

2. Article according to Claim 1, characterized in that the support comprises water-soluble polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) fibres.

3. Article according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the cosmetic product is a makeup-removing product.

4. Article according to Claim 1 or 3, characterized in that, when it is in contact with water at the first temperature (T0), the support shrinks by at least 45% and preferably by at least 60% in one direction of the said plane.

5. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the first temperature (T0) is less than or equal to 40°C.

6. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the second temperature (T1) is greater than or equal to 20°C.

7. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the fibrous support is a nonwoven and comprises a main axis of elongation of the fibres.

8. Article according to the preceding claim, characterized in that, when it is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T0), its elongation at break in the direction of the main axis

of elongation of the fibres is at least five and preferably at least ten times its elongation at break when the article is dry.

9. Article according to either of Claims 7 and 8, characterized in that, when it is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T₀), its elongation at break perpendicular to the main axis of elongation of the fibres is smaller than its elongation at break when the article is dry.

10. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the wetting of the article results in irreversible changes.

11. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that, in the wetted state at the first temperature (T₀), the surface state of the article is coarser than in the dry state.

12. Article according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is configured in the form of a wipe, a pad, an applicator tip or a glove.

13. Process of cosmetic treatment using an article according to any one of Claims 1 to 12, which consists in:

i) impregnating the said article with water at a first temperature (T₀);

ii) placing at least one cosmetic product on all or part of the said article impregnated with water;

iii) placing at least one face of the article impregnated with the said cosmetic product in contact with a surface to be treated, especially the skin or the hair; and

iv) placing the said article in contact with water at a second temperature (T₁) so as to dissolve the support and at least partially disintegrate the said article.

14. Process of cosmetic treatment using an article according to any one of Claims 1 to 12, consisting in:

i) impregnating the said article with water at a first temperature (T₀);

ii) placing at least one face of the article impregnated with the said cosmetic composition in contact with a surface to be treated, especially the skin; and

5 iii) placing the said article in contact with water at a second temperature (T1) so as to dissolve the support and at least partially disintegrate the said article.

CLAIMS

1. Single-use cosmetic article comprising at least one fibrous support extending substantially in at least one plane, and made of
5 at least one material chosen such that:
- i) when the support is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T0), it at least partially shrinks and becomes elastic in at least one direction of the said plane, and such that
 - 10 ii) when the support is placed in contact with water at a second temperature (T1), higher than the first temperature (T0), it dissolves so as to become at least partially disintegrated.
2. Article according to Claim 1, characterized in that the support comprises water-soluble polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) fibres.
3. Article according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that
15 the support is at least partially impregnated with a cosmetic product, which is preferably anhydrous, especially a makeup-removing product.
4. Article according to Claim 1 or 3, characterized in that, when it is in contact with water at the first temperature (T0), the support shrinks by at least 45% and preferably by at least 60% in one direction of
20 the said plane.
5. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the first temperature (T0) is less than or equal to 40°C.
6. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the second temperature (T1) is greater than or equal to 20°C.
- 25 7. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the fibrous support is a nonwoven and comprises a main axis of elongation of the fibres.
8. Article according to the preceding claim, characterized in that, when it is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T0), its
30 elongation at break in the direction of the main axis of elongation of the fibres is at least five and preferably at least ten times its elongation at break when the article is dry.

9. Article according to either of Claims 7 and 8, characterized in that, when it is placed in contact with water at a first temperature (T0), its elongation at break perpendicular to the main axis of elongation of the fibres is smaller than its elongation at break when the article is dry.

10. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the wetting of the article results in irreversible changes.

11. Article according to one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that, in the wetted state at the first temperature (T0), the surface state of the article is coarser than in the dry state.

12. Article according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is configured in the form of a wipe, a pad, an applicator tip or a glove.

13. Process of cosmetic treatment using an article according to any one of Claims 1 to 12, which consists in:

- i) impregnating the said article with water at a first temperature (T0);
- ii) placing at least one cosmetic product on all or part of the said article impregnated with water;
- iii) placing at least one face of the article impregnated with the said cosmetic product in contact with a surface to be treated, especially the skin or the hair; and
- iv) placing the said article in contact with water at a second temperature (T1) so as to dissolve the support and at least partially disintegrate the said article.

14. Process of cosmetic treatment using an article according to any one of Claims 1 to 12, the said article being preimpregnated with an essentially anhydrous cosmetic composition, the said process consisting in:

- i) impregnating the said article with water at a first temperature (T0);
- ii) placing at least one face of the article impregnated with the said cosmetic composition in contact with a surface to be treated, especially the skin; and

iii) placing the said article in contact with water at a second temperature (T1) so as to dissolve the support and at least partially disintegrate the said article.